

Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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O 262030Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9327

S E C R E T KINSHASA 7189

NODIS/CHEROKEE

EYES ONLY FOR THE SECRETARY FROM SCHAUFEELE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR RH

SUBJ: NKOMO TRAVEL

REF: TEHRAN 8579

1. PARA 3 REFTTEL INDICATES NKOMO PLANS ARRIVE LUSAKA ABOUT SEPT
1. CONTINUE ON TO RHODESIA VIA BOTSWANA AND THEN TRAVEL TO
SAUDI ARABIA.

2. I BELIEVE AMBASSADOR LOW SHOULD BE INSTRUCTED SEE NKOMO
DISCREETLY IN LUSAKA AND TALK TO HIM ON BASIS CAREFULLY DRAFTED
TALKING POINTS TAILORED TO BRING NKOMO ADEQUATELY UP TO DATE WITH-
OUT GOING TO FAR. IN DOING SO WE SHOULD AVOID GIVING IMPRESSION TO
OTHERS THAT WE SUPPORTING NKOMO TO EXCLUSION OF COMPETING NAT-
IONALIST LEADERS.

3. WHETHER NKOMO SHOULD RETURN TO RHODESIA DURING PERIOD WHICH
COULD INCLUDE YOUR TALKS WITH VORSTER AND POSSIBLE TRIP TO
AFRICA IS QUESTIONABLE. IT GIVES HIM ADVANTAGE OF BEING IN PLACE
WITH HIS ORGANIZATION AT CRITICAL TIME. HOWEVER, ONLY MEANS OF
COMMUNICATION WOULD BE OPEN TELEPHONE LINES INSIDE RHODESIA.
FURTHERMORE, THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT IN TALKS WITH PRESIDENT
OR REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER RHODESIAN NATIONALIST GROUPS THERE IS
NO ADEQUATE SUBSTITUTE FOR NKOMO. KAUNDA WOULD TRY TO PROTECT
NKOMO'S INTERESTS BUT CANNOT SUBSTITUTE FOR HIM.

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4. THEREFORE I BELIEVE AMBASSADOR LOW SHOULD ALSO BE INSTRUCTED TO ADVISE NKOMO TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY WHETHER HE SHOULD GO BACK TO RHODESIA AT A TIME WHEN HIS PRESENCE ELSEWHERE MAY BE IMPORTANT TO HIS INTERESTS. ANOTHER FACTOR MAY BE THAT, ALTHOUGH SAG HAS INFORMED US THAT IT HAS STRONGLY URGED SMITH GOVERNMENT TO TAKE NO ACTION AGAINST NKOMO, THERE IS NO ASSURANCE THAT SMITH WILL NOT PLACE HIM IN DETENTION WHICH COULD BE A MAJOR BLOCK TO ANY PROGRESS IN RHODESIA.
CUTLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, POLITICAL LEADERS, DEBRIEFINGS, VISITS, CAT-B, CHEROKEE 08/26/76
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976KINSHA07189
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: EYES ONLY FOR THE SECRETARY
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P840084-1263, N760006-0487
From: KINSHASA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760818/aaaaaoqp.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY
Reference: 76 TEHRAN 8579
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <12 OCT 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NKOMO TRAVEL
TAGS: PFOR, PDEV, RH, ANC, (NKOMO, JOSHUA)
To: STATE SS SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006